

July /August 2007



Franklin County Public Safety

FIRST DUE

Special points of interest:

- * EMS PROGRAM
- * CARBON MONOXIDE
- * TRAINING CENTER
- * CONGRATULATIONS
- * SQUAD 2 ANNIVERSARY

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The first year of the EMT-B program in Franklin County High School has drawn to a close. The students have been very dedicated and motivated to succeed in these courses. This was a dual enrollment course with college credits being awarded by Virginia Western Community College. The first semester had only six students with 5 being successful and the 6th currently awaiting to test again. The second semester had ten students enrolled. Three were successful on their first attempt at testing and the remaining seven will be retesting soon. Although some of the students were not successful on their first attempt at OEMS testing, the students have shown their dedication by not giving in to the temptation to "just give up". They have

instead continued to practice, study, and prepare to pass the state exam. In addition to EMT-B, the class also included Hazardous Material Awareness, NIMS 100, fire extinguisher training, and optional GEMS and PEPP training. There are currently 36 potential students enrolled for the next school year. There has been tremendous inter-agency corporation in the program between, Franklin County High School, County Officials, Carilion, WVEMS Council, OEMS, and Public Safety. Students and parents have been wonderful to work with also. Several agencies have also gained new members from the class and hopefully this will continue to work as a pipeline to the public safety system. We look forward to seeing these students in the future as they run calls and con-

tinue their emergency services training. Also it will be nice when they just stop by the training center and say "Hello".



CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS AWARDED

Franklin County Public Safety recently received a grant for 200 Carbon Monoxide detectors. The grant was made possible by the Virginia Department of Fire Programs, Virginia State Fire Marshal's Office and the Virginia Department of Housing and Community

Development. The detectors will be offered FREE of charge to citizens of Franklin County. The career staff will also assist with the installation of the detectors. If you need more information on how to obtain a detector for your home or for a citizen in your

response area please contact the public safety administration office at 483-3091.

SQUAD 2 TO CELEBRATE ANNIVERSARY

Did you know that Franklin County Rescue Squad has been in existence since 1958. That's right Franklin County Rescue Squad was chartered in 1958 as the first emergency medical services unit in our county. As 2008 nears Squad 2 is now in the process of planning for a huge celebration in the upcoming year. The celebration will begin with an invitation only dinner on Friday night to be held at the Pigg River Community Center located on South Main Street. The event will continue all day Saturday with events being held at the

station located on West Court Street in Rocky Mount and at the Farmer's Market located on Franklin Street. In planning for the monumental day the squad is asking that anyone with pictures, stories, newspaper articles or anything that can relate to the history of Franklin County Rescue Squad please contact Belinda Hodges, Captain. Captain Hodges can be reached by phone at 483-9700 or by email at Binsue27@aol.com.



**Every job is a self
-portrait of the
person who did it.**

**Autograph it with
excellence.**

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations are in order for several public safety team members. Jeff McCarty, Company 1, Hugh Walker, Squad 2, Joey Willie and Robbie Dent, Company 4, Kevin Burroughs and Decon Sledd, Company 5, Nathan Angle, Company 7, and Collin Jones, Company 9 recently completed the firefighter I class. In addition they also passed the State of Virginia exam administered by the Department of

Fire Programs to become certified. Tiffany Hudson, Shannon Magness, and Mike Atkins Squad 2, Mitzie Smith, Squad 4, Blake Alley, Company 9, Branden Robertson and Greg Hale, Squad 9, Melissa Cundiff, Squad 10, Jessica Perdue, and Mike Spencer Squad 4, and John VonOhlsen and Jessica McPherson recently completed the Emergency Medical Technician—Basic class and successfully passed

the state exam administered by the Office of Emergency Medical Services. Melissa Thompson also completed and passed the Emergency Medical Technician—Enhanced program and Bruce Wall recently completed the Bob Page 12 lead EKG program. Bruce Wall, Scott Fulcher and Mike Pruitt from the career division recently completed and passed the Fire Investigator 10-33 class.

TRAINING CENTER RECEIVES ACCREDITATION

The Franklin County Department of Public Safety recently received notification that it has been granted conditional accreditation. This process is required in order to conduct Emergency Medical Technician—Intermediate classes. Once the first program and site team recommendations are complete the center should receive full accreditation. Congratulations go out to Mike Pruitt, Training Coordinator and Eric Newman, Fire/

EMS instructor for all their hard work in receiving this accomplishment. Other accredited agencies in the area are the Roanoke Regional Fire Training Center, Jefferson College of Health Sciences, and Patrick Henry Community College. Students enrolled in programs at the Franklin County Public Safety center will also receive college credits from Virginia Western Community College. We look forward to conducting our first Advanced Life

Support classes later this year.